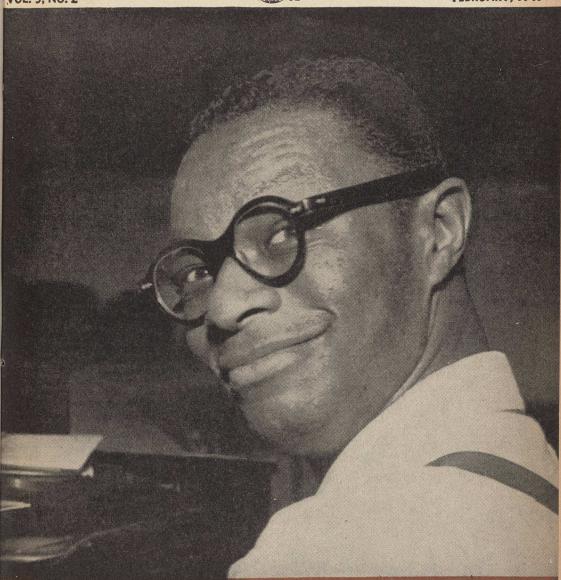


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52

FEBRUARY, 1947



The King Rolls On ...

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EDITED BY DAVE DEXTER, IR.

At Deadline

Harry James planned to reorganize his band in February after a vacation of more than two months, much of it spent training and clocking his horses at Santa Anita.

Most of the lames musicians were expected to return to the fold, including blonde Marion Morgan of Detroit, vocalist. It is likely that Harry will go east with the group in the spring.

Carmen Miranda and assorted rumba bands will be featured in late February at the new Hollywood Copacabana which Monte Proser will unshutter amid razzle-dazzle hoopla. The emphasis will be on acts and name singers. Proser is said to have spent more than \$100,000 getting the place in shape. Actually, it's the old Trocadero.

Management of Florentine Gardens, Hollywood, cancelled the engagement of Slim Gaillard's trio after Gaillard repeatedly failed to appear on time. Slim was being paid \$1,500 weekly before he was heaved.

Ballrooms and niteries throughout California suffering anaemic business. And more musicians are unemployed now than at any time since 1937, AFM Local 47 discloses.

Benny Goodman and Vic Borge have Jimmy Durante as their guest on NBC

Sam Rowland, record reviewer for Look mag, started his own record program over Pasadena's KWKW. He airs from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. daily.

Clark Dennis, tenor, broke both wrists while riding a horse. His mitts are in casts but his pipes weren't dam-

"Miss America of 1946," Marilyn Buferd, celebrated 21st birthday anniversary with new MGM contract. She sings, too

Martha Tilton clicking on "Meet Me at Parky's" Sunday NBC show.



New Home, New Job for Bandleader Georgie Auld

THE HANDSOME (and hipped) little man behind the counter of the new record store opening in February across from Hollywood High School will be Georgie Auld, who should know what he's peddling. Auld is readying the shop for a fancy opening and will devote full time to its operation, gigging occasionally at night with his saxophones while waiting out his Local 47 card. Not yet completely recovered from his recent illness, Georgie junked his band and moved to Hollywood permanently on orders of his New York physician. With Auld a merchant, the retail wax field now includes the Pied Pipers, Freddy Martin. Sonny Burke, the Andrews Sisters and—until recently when creditors moved in and padlocked the joint-Slim Gaillard.

They Picked the Wrong Sucker

TUNECLEFFER BERT Kalmar passes on a yarn revolving around the veteran bandleader Perry Bradford, who recorded frequently with his "lazz Phools" band back in the 1920's and established a rep as a sharp character. Perry was always writing songs. Kalmar recalls, but although the choruses were different he always used the same verse. One of his songs nevertheless loomed as a hit and a new recording company wrote to him with a view towards "taking" him: if Bradford would waive all royalties, they told him, they would record his song. A record would give him great prestige, would make his song sell lots of sheet music, etc. But Perry had an answer to the offer. "Gentlemen." he wrote the company, "the only thing I waves is the American flag. Yours truly. . . Perry Bradford."

Joe Alexander: The 1947 Threat to Swoon Singers?

IF ONE is to believe the ravings of Nat Cole and others whose word is gospel, young Joe Alexander will be the nation's next big song star. A veteran of the Floyd Ray band, Joe has played bass and drums through the years, but it's his virile, distinctive pipes that are creating the big talk in California. The first sample of the Alexander art has just been made available on a Cap biscuit mating "At Your Command" with "I Keep Telling Myself." He's on his way. . . Roy Eldridge is desperately trying to keep his little combo alive. Louie Jordan replaced Roy at Berg's and Little Jazz took to the road with Trummie Young on trombone, among others. . . Johnny Moore took his Three Blazers to Chi to go into Joe Louis's Rhumboogie Club at \$2,000 weekly. . . And Jesse Price is getting three times as much per week for his fly little quartet since his "I Ain't Mad at You" platter went into the jukes. . . Someone asked Woody Herman, when he junked his band, if he had seen the handwriting on the wall. "No," answered Woodrow. "I saw the wall."

Things & Stuff, Etc., Etc.

IERRY WALD, breaking in his new stringed ensemble at Ciro's, signed for a spot in Sammy Katzman's "Broadway Baby" pic for Columbia release. . . Al Jarvis has turned his KLAC mike over to Woody Herman every Saturday, Herman spinning discs, making with the gab and chatter, and looking more like a 21-karat disc jock with every broadcast. He gets paid for his work, too. . . Boyd Raeburn's fans hope he has more success in N. Y. than he had here. The guy just can't seem to keep a band together—but who can, these days? . . . The Andrews Sisters are back in Filmtown for scenes in "Road to Rio" with Bing, Hope and Lamour, , , You can shut the door now, Richard. We've had enough.

The King Rolls On . . . In Theaters



MEREDITH WILLSON of the lowa Willsons gave Kansas City's Emmy Lou Welch her first network break as a canary on his Friday CBS stanza. Since then, Miss Welch has nabbed a Hollywood nitery job, and appears destined for big things.

Peg Nixing Pic Commitments

Peggy Lee is finding herself in the position of nixing offers instead of seeking them. Both Bob Hope and Bing Crosby sought to sign her for March 13 through 19, RKO Theater in radio last month but the contracts ered her a film offer which wasn't what she wanted.

So she's staying in her home atop a Hollywood mountain with her daughter Nicki and husband Dave Barbour, re- round out the trio's spring and summer cording occasionally and relaxing after itinerary. Carlos Gastel, hungry Hontwo weeks, with the Ritz Brothers, as duran mentor, and the GAC staff destar of the show at El Rancho Vegas in clare that Nat, Oscar (Guitar) Moore

Skip This Item: You Won't Believe It

For years Ray Tucci played baritone sax in Jack Teagarden's band. All the could abandon his horn and retire to a 'em both. kitchen and cook all the delicacies he

Teagarden then junked his band and took a job with a small crew at the Susie-Q Club in Hollywood. The man is Ray Tucci. So help us, it's true.

Big Hooper, Too. For Cole Airshow

Swinging along in high gear on the most triumphant tour they have ever made, Nat (King) Cole and his trio return to New York for a week at the Apollo Theater in Harlem Feb. 7 to 13. Then they move into the hinterlands again, facing one of the most gruelling itineraries ever booked, to continue in theaters until April.

Every Saturday, no matter where the group happens to be, the Cole trio airs its Wildroot program coast to coast via NBC with guest vocal and instrumental stars featured along with Nat's sly singing and pianologics.

Posting a 7 Hooper rating, the Cole-Wildroot program has proved one of the biggest surprises in radio since taking the air last Oct. 19. It is heard at 5:45 p.m. (Eastern time) Saturdays, long considered the poorest day of the week for radio sets in use.

Here is the King Cole schedule:

Feb. 7 through 13, Apollo in New York. Feb. 14 through 16, State Theater in Hartford.

Feb. 20 through 26, Downtown Theater, Detroit.

March 4 through 6, RKO Theater in Columbus.

Cincinnati.

weren't to her liking. Paramount tend- March 20 for two weeks, Chicago Theater, Chicago.

Additional bookings are being set to and Johnny (Bass) Miller will not hit Hollywood soon, despite reports of west coast columnists. Mortimer Manville Ruby is managing the trio on the road and lining up interviews with disc jocks in the various cities in which the combo

Newest record release by Cole pairs time he was on the road, however, Ray "I Want to Thank Your Folks" with looked forward to the day when he "You Should Have Told Me." Nat sings

Johnny Desmond Here For Warners' Tests

here indefinitely.



HE AIN'T mad about the success of his "I Ain't Mad at You" etching. Jesse Price, for a decade one of the most popular Middlewestern drummers, came up with a "sleeper" hit last month which he sings lustily amid Dave Barbour's fancy boxpluckings. It's an inane little novelty that is hitting big, and the payoff is that Price has been chanting it for years, unaware of its Hit Parade potentialities.

March 7 through 12, RKO Theater in Lou McGarrity Cleveland. Joins Nichols

Lou McGarrity has joined Red April 12 through 17, Paradise Theater, Nichols' band at Hollywood's Club Morocco on trombone. The former Goodman sliphorn ace, who also works Goodman's Monday night NBC program, joined Nichols at the same time that Rosey McHargue rejoined Red on

Nichols' Pennies also feature Don Lodice, tenor; Rollie Culver. drums; Thurman Teague, bass, and Pete De-Santis, piano. Nichols just signed a new Morocco contract and will remain there through February. The Pennies air nightly over KECA and the ABC west coast

Ray Bauduc Back With Bob Crosby

Abandoning his little combo in L. A. on Jan. 20, Ray Bauduc returned to the His crew cut gone, Johnny Desmond Bob Crosby fold a few days later, rewearing a chef's hat back in the pulled into town Jan. 9 to take movie placing Ralph Collier on drums. Bauduc kitchen, the man who does all the tests at Warner Bros. The former G.I. sparked the old Crosby Dixie group cooking for hungry patrons of the club, baritone is now a longhair. He'll stay from 1935 to 1942, and served three years in the army.

group's arrangements.

added at press time.

Sidemen Are All Prominent

The rhythm section comprises limmy

Stutz on bass, Sheldon Smith, piano,

and Ray Hart on drums. Thombones line

up with Phil Washburne, Benny Benson

and Ray Simms, Simms doubling on

vacals. A fourth trombone was to be

The Band Still Jumping

Los Angeles was in the spring of 1946

at the Avodon. The personnel of his

group has changed almost completely

high caliber. Bobby will continue to

record for Capitol with the revamped

unit. Dave Cavanaugh assisted him in

writing arrangements and rounding up

a half-dozen of the new men now fea-

Jack Fina Ork

ment at the staid Palmer House.

crew at a hotel in Berkeley, Calif.

To Buck Chicago

Sherwood's previous engagement in

off the cuff

THE BIG talk in N. Y. may surround Joe Mooney, his accordion and quartet but in California the space goes to a youngster by the name of Ernie Filice whom Meredith Willson discovered and presented, for the first time, on the "Sparkle Time" CBS program. Filice plays accordion, and improvises on it as if it were a tenor sax. He's got a big future.

Former music ed of "Billboard," Elliott Grennard, launched a series of 10 lectures on jazz at the People's Educational Center and will be heard every Friday mixing records with comment. Grennard, a former New Yorker who now lives in Hollywood permanently, also sold a 6,000-word story to Harper's. Tabbed "Sparrow's Last Jump," the varn was inspired by Charlie Parker's recent collapse. The author probes into the psychology and mental conflicts of a hot man. It will be published in Harper's soon.

Frank Nelson rejoined the Alvino Rev band on trumpet after an illness of two

Irving Ashby, guitarist who came up the pike with Lionel Hampton's band. opened his own L.A. studios and is teaching harmony, theory. . . and

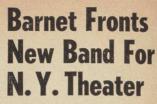
Julia Lee, bagging a page spread and photo in "Time" mag, won second place as the nation's favorite sepia sparrow in poll conducted by "Billboard" mag. She's still featured nightly at Milton's Tap Room in Kansas City and waxing exclusively for Capitol.

Benny Carter still loafing at his hilltop home in H'wood. He's cooking something.

George Pal resumed production on Puppetoons, "Date With Duke" will feature music by Ellington's band: "Rhapsody in Wood" will boast a soundtrack by Woody Herman's defunct combo. Stuff was recorded while both bands were playing locations in L.A. last Oc-

Andres Segovia, perhaps the greatest guitar player who ever plunked a string, was presented in his annual recital in L.A. Jan. 19. House was packed with jazzmen. Segovia does not employ an electrically-amplified box.

weekly.



Winding up his return run at the Casino Gardens Ballroom here Charlie Barnet trained out to New York for a stint at the Strand Theater

Barnet thus will have a group comprised exclusively of New York City musicians. Nor does he have to pay transportation costs of 20 musicians from Los Angeles to N.Y.

The Barnet crew's run at Casino Gardens revealed a smaller outfit, but one which jumped and screamed as all previous Barnet bands were noted for jumping and screaming. Charlie paces every orchestra with his soprano, alto and tenor sax work. It's mad.

No More 'Flesh' In Los Angeles

Los Angeles will be without vaudeville for the first time in half a century after Feb. 4 when the Million Dollar Theater abandons stage shows and exhibits films only.

It has all come about, according to the theater's manager, veteran showman Sherill Corwin, because of the scarcity of big name bands. "Several of the top bandleaders have disbanded their groups," said Corwin. "Without the top bands a theater can't operate. Even the best in vaude acts won't draw at the box-office unless there's a band,

bands, in person, when they are available. But he indicated that such engagements would necessarily be few and far between. The news of the theater's discontinuance of vaude shows came as a severe shock to bookers and performers alike. It will mean just one less "class" theater in which they can perform, and the number of available theaters to attractions is already at an all-

Tex Ritter and his western crew are Francisco will continue stage shows.



BOBBING UP at the Casino Gardens with a brand new orchestra comprised of California musicians, Bobby Sherwood returned home in January to front a band that reflects the superb musicianship of its leader. A virtuoso of the guitar, Sherwood plays equally fine horn. He also sings, writes arrangements and covers Santa Anita. California music fans are happy to have

Gardens engagement, include Frankie Beach, Claude Bowen and Bob Mc-Kenzie. Dave Pell and Dave Cavanaugh are in the tenor chairs. Joe Koch is on baritone and Claude Lakey and Keith

too."

Corwin has always believed in "flesh" entertainment, and through several depressions and economic crises he kept performers working, "But conditions are different now," he declared. "We can't make a go of it any longer. There simply aren't enough attractions."

Corwin said he would play name

Basie Back East After Triumphal Avodon Date

Ballroom concluded, Count Basie careful eye to good taste and musicianship. His solos don't come as often as but its musical output is of the same headed east in January and was Gonsolves', however, Paradise Theater in Detroit on Jan. 31. Spike Wallace, Aides skedded to open, with his band, at the

New Sidemen Hypo Sherwood

noises and similar novelties. Buddy Tate, played in Paul Whiteman's band.

His engagement at the Avodon nevertheless, still blows a tenor with a

Basie and his sidemen will then con- Win Local Election

tinue east to go into the New York Spike Wallace and other incumbent Roxy. Paul Gonsolves, tenor saxist who officers of Local 47. American Federareplaced Illinois Jacquet, developed into tion of Musicians, are beginning ana "screecher" while in California and other term following the annual elecis now as adept as Jacquet in playing tion recently in which the Wallace slate chicken calls, freak notes, barnyard swept to an easy victory. Spike once



OFF AGAIN, to New York this time, is Charlie Barnet and his saxophone collection. The Mad Mab left his band in California and planned to organize an all-New York crew for his Strand Theater job. Here he's shown blowing, gutbucket style, on his recent Casino Gardens run.

-Photo by Charlie Mihn

Broadway Nitery Next For Boyd Raeburn Ork

Boyd Raeburn trained to N.Y. in late time low. lanuary after more than a year in California. He and his new 802 ork were winding up the season the week of Louis Jordan unit opened at Billy skedded to open at the new Vanity Fair Jan. 29. From Feb. 4 on out it will be Berg's Jan. 15 and is garnering \$3,500 Club, formerly the Zanzibar, on Broad-films. The Golden Gate Theater in San



BIG GATE still has a right to sing-and blow-the blues. Pictured here with his brother Charlie, trumpet, and Art Lyons, clarinet, on the stand at the Susie-Q Club, Teagarden is recovering from pneumonia and a battle with a judge in court. But his music is as exciting as it was two decades ago when he left Texas carrying his horn in a sack.

Trombonist, Just 19, Sparks Al Donahue Ork at Avodon

geles on Jan. 7 was Al Donahue's man. "Low Down Rhythm in a Top Hat."

made headlines a decade ago leading an business of any band to play the room got my friends." orchestra in the Rainbow room of the since it opened in early 1946. Donahue. RCA building in New York, is fronting his sidemen and "Charlene" will have an outfit which features several out- to pull a lot of ducats through the standing sidemen. Lloyd Ulyate, only turnstiles to equal Basie's mark, he said. 19, is regarded by many west coast musicians as one of the finest—but un- 'Fabulous Dorseys' to publicized—trombone players west of New York. Jack Jahmidas, Tom Justice Preem in Late Feb'v and Tony Felisi form a hard-hitting trumpet trio with Felisi doubling as Dorseys" will be held in Pennsylvania.

leads the Donahue reed section. Carl Year day, will be an honored guest. He Martino is on bass and V. J. Bourgeois and Tommy are stars of the film along Rolls This Month

to his girl singer, a recent Donahue dis- musicians are featured in the film along begin shooting "Varieties of 1947" covery whom Al bills simply as Char- with the Dorsey freres.

Avodon Ballroom stand in Los An- Don Lee-Mutual (KHJ). Frankie Walsh ment and said he was more interested remains Donahue's manager and utility and happier, in leading the small combo

Donahue, yet violinist who first don, reported that Basie did the best the 'big' band anyway," he said. "I still

The first showing of "The Fabulous to Sing the Blues." home of Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey, on First chair altoist Danny Ippolito Feb. 28. Jimmy, who was born on Leap with Janet Blair. United Artists is re-Donahue also is giving the buildup leasing it. More than a dozen big name



Bum Luck Dogs Teagarden, But He Carries On

"Man, this just isn't my month I got troubles, troubles. But I guess I could be a lot worse off, at that."

Jack Teagarden has become a philosopher since his return to Hollywood. Stricken with pneumonia last month, he was flat on his back under the care of a physician when a California judge ignored his illness and ordered him to appear in court to show cause why he had allegedly paid no alimony to his former wife, Mrs. Edna (Billie) Teagarden, who divorced him

Loses His Library

Unable to pay, the Big Gate was then ordered to turn over the invaluable library of arrangements featured by his recent "big" band. The court decided it would sell his library of several hundred arrangements in order to obtain \$4,363 reportedly owed the former Mrs. Tea-

Back on his nightly stand at the Susie-Q Club on Hollywood boulevard, Replacing Count Basie on the lene. She and the band air nightly over Teagarden shrugged off his predicawhich features his brother Charlie's Barney McDevitt, who runs the Avo- trumpet. "I never made any money with

New Combo Big Success

lack's new small combo was attracting wide attention in California as this issue rolled on the press. And Jack, for all his troubles, was still blowing a magnificent slide horn and singing the was the same as always: "I Got a Right

'Varieties' Film

RKO-Radio in early February will with Milton Berle starred and music to be provided by Hadda Brooks and

Miss Brooks, who has come up fast recently as a composer, pianist and jive vocalist, will take off for New York in March, following her first film assignment. She got headlines in H'wood recently when she was interviewed by Ted Lenz of KGFJ while flying at 8,000 feet above L.A. in a plane, the object being Foundation campaign.

Kenton Krew Hops to Hollywood

Avodon Opening Set for Feb. 5

AFTER JUGGLING his engagements for several weeks, Stan Kenton completed negotiations to play the Avodon Ballroom in Los Angeles and will open with his "Artistry in Rhythm" aggregation Feb. 5 for four weeks. Stan was forced to cancel a number of Middlewestern theater and one-nighter engagements in order to accept the Avodon offer.

Vido Musso Returns on Tenor

With Vido Musso back in the band on tenor, Stan advised the Avodon's manager, Barney McDevitt, that his outfit was "probably in the best shape ever." For many weeks there had been a heated battle between the Avodon and Palladium managements to secure Kenton's contract.

Kenton pointed out that he had played the Palladium, as well as the Meadowbrook, on previous California visits and that he was anxious to appear at the Avodon, newest of the west coast terp palaces. McDevitt outbidded Maurice Cohen of the Palladium and contracts were signed on Jan. 9.

June Christy Eyes Wedlock

The Avodon will pay the SK krew \$6,500 a week, the highest figure ever paid a band at the spot. Tuesday will be the band's night off.

June Christy was reported ready to marry Bobby Cooper, Kenton's other tenor saxist, as this issue of the Cap News went to press. The Illinois canary, reported to be leaving Stan's band a I'll ever be out of the Kenton band is Kenton sideman nearly two years. The came as a surprise, nonetheless.

Takes On Vocal Quintet

his short-lived orchestra in Los Angeles. to see the country." Musso played a successful engagement of several weeks at the Culver City Meadowbrook in late 1946 and his decision to abandon his young, struggling aggregation also evoked comment. His new deal with Kenton, however, calls for an "unprecedented" weekly salary, prominent billing and complete publicity coverage. His stay with Stan now is presumed to be on a permanent basis.

Augmenting the vocals of Christy now are the Pastels, five young singers to call attention to a Sister Kenny who made their first records with the Kenton combo in New York on Jan. 2



BACK WITH Kenton after a shortlived fling as a leader, Vido Musso blows his potent tenor on a Minneapolis theater date. The band is set for the L.A. Avodon Feb. 5.

"The problem now is transportation," Kenton declared, "what with 20 musi- "Artistry in Rhythm" combination firmly cians, June, the Pastels, Ed Gabel, Mil- occupies the spot that the late Glenn ton Karle, Pete Rugolo, Dorothy Gioga, Miller's memorable crew occupied in Gene Howard and occasionally, Carlos 1941 and 1942, before the war broke few weeks back, denies she has ever Gastel. Gabel was our bandboy for years it up. blues with a Texas accent. His theme entertained such plans. "The only way but has been promoted to road manager. Rugolo, of course, is chief of the for Stan to throw me out," she said. arranging staff. Dorothy Gioga is the caused the breakup of the Herman, Les Her husband-to-be, Cooper, has been a band's secretary and the wife of Bari- Brown, Teagarden, Goodman and other announcement of their plans to wed vance publicity man, chief photog- as yet, given no indication that he rapher, arranger and our right-hand would trim his payroll. man. Karle is the space-grabber and Musso rejoined the band in New Jockey-romancer. Gastel just goes along be \$7,250. Kenton's sidemen are the Jersey Jan. 16, not long after disbanding for the free ride when he has a chance highest paid in the profession. So are

"Because of this load, 32 in all, we're shopping for a bus," Stan added, "What we need is a little artistry in transportation for a change. Trains and cars are nowhere on the road these days."

New Plan for Records

The tall, dynamic pianist devised a plan, last month, which he believes will result in bigger and better record sales through 1947. "We will release one record every month," he said. "One side of each disc will be a sort of straight jazz side featuring the band's instrumental stars and what we hope will be an unorthodox, progressive arrangement. We don't care if it isn't commercial. The other side will take care of sales to the masses. It will be a juke-box special, emphasizing vocal stuff by June or the Pastels or even all of them together. By backing a jazz classic with a commercial ballad or a novelty we think we may have a formula which will please all kinds of music lovers, the booted characters as well as the oblongs."

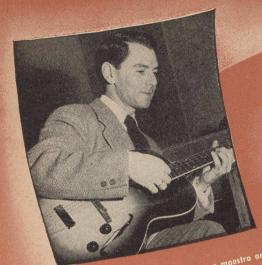
Winner of every important poll last year as the outstanding dance orchestra. Kenton's band refutes the columnists and radio jocks who constantly peddle the line of chatter that sweet music has returned to favor. With his main rival. Woody Herman, out of the picture and through with the road, Kenton has emerged as the biggest band attraction in the world today. Judged on the basis of record sales, and on box-office under Jimmy Conkling's supervision, grosses in ballrooms, theaters and wherever bands perform, Kenton's 1947

Payroll Now \$7,250 Weekly

Faced with the same problems that tone Saxist Bob Gioga. Howard is ad-highly successful orchestras, Kenton has,

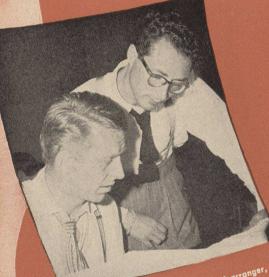
> The weekly SK payroll now is said to his singers.





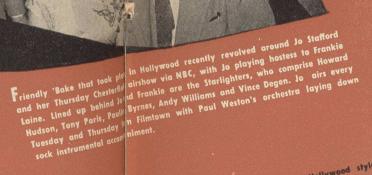
MAKING February HEADLINES...

Making his debut as a jazz maestro on
Capitol this month is Dave Barbour, whose
fly crew turns out "forever Paganini"
and "forever Nicki" featuring Dave's
and "forever Nicki" featuring, therbie
guitar, Heinie Beau's clarinet, Herbie
Haymer's tenor, Ray Linn's trumpet,
Haymer's tenor, Ray Linn's trumpet,
Buddy Cole's piano and Nick Fatool's
skin-slapping. Both sides are instrumentals. Making his debut as a jazz maestro on



Stan Kenton and his chief arranger, Pele Itan Kenton and his chief arranger, Pele Rugolo, rehearse a new score to showcase the tenor sax of Vido Musso, who finally the tenor sax of band and returned to the junked his own band and returned to the junked his own band and returned; powerful in the tenor sax of tenor sax of the tenor sax of tenor sax





1947 Valentine, Hollywood style, is Janis Paige, who ance worked as a Tacoma stenographer. No more. She's starring in Warners "The Time, The Place and The Girl." And wottagal !!

Brush-Off Given Film Musicals Wakely, Alexander in Capitol Debut

Only Eight Now In Preparation

HOLLYWOOD is cutting down on film musicals. Things ain't what they used to be.

A check on major (and minor) flicker factories reveals that only eight musicals are now in production. A year ago there were 12. Two years ago there were 14.

A public that is ever becoming more critical, coupled with overproduction of musicals during the war when many producers turned to "escapist" productions, are the two factors behind the

Paramount and RKO-Radio, in fact. are the only studios engaged in making more than a single musical. None is in production at Universal-International. Republic, Columbia, Enterprise, Monogram, PRC or the numerous other inde-

Taking them picture by picture, studio by studio, here is how the situation shapes up as of Feb. 1:

PARAMOUNT

THE ROAD TO RIO starring Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour. Produced by Danny Dare, directed by Norman McLeod. Started Dec. 26.

VARIETY GIRL starring Mary Hatcher, Olga San Juan, DeForest Kelley, Pearl Bailey and others. Produced by Danny Dare, directed by George Marshall. Started Oct. 21 and just being completed

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

THE BIRDS AND THE BEES starring leanette MacDonald, Jose Iturbi, Jane Powell, Ann Todd, Edward Arnold. Produced by Joe Pasternak, directed by Fred Wilcox. Started Nov. 7. Techni-

WARNER BROTHERS

William Jacobs, directed by David But- Al Green. Started Nov. 29. ler. Started Sept. 25. Technicolor.



KIDDIN' ON THE KEYS might apply to Marsha Hunt and Eddie Albert, featured in the forthcoming "Smash-Up" film which stars Susan Hayward, Miss Hayward plays the role of a singer who, becoming frustrated because of her husband's behavior, turns to alcohol. There is no bat scene, however, nor does Susie hide a jug in a chandelier. Universal-International will release it soon.

20TH-FOX

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS starring Betty Grable, Michael Dunn, Dan Dailey, Jr., Mona Freeman. Produced by Lamar Trotti, directed by Walter Lang. Started Oct. 21. Technicolor.

RKO-RADIO

VARIETIES OF 1947, a musical with cast now being selected. Specialties by Hadda Brooks, pianist and vocalist, and Spike Jones' City Slickers. Started about

IF YOU KNEW SUSIE starring Eddie Cantor, Joan Davis, other acts to be set. Produced by Eddie Cantor, directed by Gordon Douglas. Started Jan. 2.

UNITED ARTISTS

COPACABANA starring Carmen Miranda, Groucho Marx, Andy Russell, MY WILD IRISH ROSE starring Den- Gloria Jean, Earl Wilson, Louis Sobol. nis Morgan, Andrea King. Produced by Produced by Sam Coslow, directed by

And that's that. Just eight.

CLIFFIE STONE

'Silver Stars, Purple Sage,

Lyes of Blue'

'If You Knew Susie

(LIKE I KNOW SUSIE)

Robert Walker are starring in a Metro Monogram's Star picture called "Song of Love." Katy plays piano in the film just about as John Carfield played fiddle in "Humorin MGM's "To Kiss and to Keep" in out and out musical, either.

Warners' will eventually get started contract just negotiated. on "Young Man With a Horn," and "The Fabulous Dorseys" and "New Orleans," both of which present a number of prominent musicians on the screen and soundtrack, recently were comlatter two films were produced independently, by Charlie Rogers and lules Levey, respectively, for release by United Artists

But it's real quiet these days around the lots and sound stages. Lots of cowboy and robber stuff, lots of heavy emoting, lots of foreign settings and exotic stagings. But little music.

Radio music is booming, film music is slumping and one-nighters for bands are dead. Anything can happen in the months to come.



JUMPIN' JULIA Lee and one of her "Boy Friends" of recording renown, Sam (Baby) Lovett, looked like this when they cut wax for Capitol recently. Back now in Kansas City, Julia and Lovett-her drummer-hold forth nightly at Milton's Tap Room. At the end of each set Julia sends dancers back to their tables with her shout to "sit down and drink it over."

Signs New Pact

esque." But it really isn't a musical IIMMY WAKELY, for many years There'll also be added emphasis on music a topflight folk and western singer, and a film favorite of millions, which Gene Kelly, Marie McDonald and ligined the Capitol roster in January Charlie Winniger cavort. But it isn't an and will record exclusively for Capital in the future under terms of a new

Cliffie Stone of Capitol hustled Jimmy's first two record sides in time to make the Jan. 20 release. The titles include Wakely's own song, "Somebody's Rose," coupled with "Everyone Knew It pleted and soon will be showing. The But Me." Wakely's pal Tex Ritter publishes the second title.

A star of Monogram flickers and a special favorite of young fans, Wakely is no newcomer to records. For years he has been a top-selling artist for Decca.

Last month he concluded a long tour of America's South, a smash trek which took him as far as Florida.

Stone asserted that Wakely would be represented "with extremely frequent" new releases on the Capitol schedules to come, "Somebody's Rose" and "Everyone Knew It But Me" indicate he may ring the bull's-eye on his first shot

Hawaii Hotel lob For loe Reichman

The first American band to snag a location engagement in Hawaii since pre-Pearl Harbor days is Joe Reichman's, whose crew was slated to open at the Royal Hawaiian hostelry in Honolulu on Jan. 28.

The Reichman contract calls for his band's services for an "indefinite" period. In other words, if the piano maestro's music clicks, he can loll among the leis as long as he likes.

Vaughn Monroe Opens Palladium on Feb. 4

The orchestra of Vaughn Monroe returns to the Palladium here on Feb. 4 for a four-week engagement, the first the singer and his sidemen have played in California since working the same ballroom more than a year ago. Charlie Spivak closes Feb. 2.

Texas Gets Cugat

Xavier Cugat trains to Brownsville, Texas, to play a four-day engagement at the Brownsville Centennial celebration Feb. 12 through Feb. 15. Cugy and his band will be paid \$28,000 for the



HMMY WAKELY ... Now singing his folk and west-



IOE ALEXANDER . . . His exciting baritone voice is at its best on ballads.

Big-Voiced Joe Exciting 'Find'

THE NEW year already has brought forth a new vocal star of the first magnitude. Virtually unknown a month ago, Joe Alexander was found by Capitol executives singing in a small Los Angeles night club. Already his first record is set for national

A Louisiana boy, loe knocked around for 10 years before attracting the attention of Capitol a few weeks ago. His powerful, expressive pipes already are creating hubba hubbas; Joe now is working at the Pico Club in Los Angeles as his first two sides launch him on a new and exciting phase of his career.

Accompanied by a crack orchestra conducted by Dave Cavanaugh, noted tenor saxophonist and arranger who helped build Buddy Sherwood's band. Alexander sings "At Your Command" and "I Keep Telling Myself" on his first etching. They are romantic ballads.

No moppet. Alexander revealed he had played string bass and drums in various "B" and "C" bands. But like Andy Russell, also a drummer, Alexander's singing talents were overlooked because of his musicianship, Joe does not sing like Russell, however. His style is the antithesis of the "swoonev"

Capitol will release records by Alexander consistently through 1947 with Cavanaugh arranging and conducting behind Joe's virile pipings.

Fatha' Hines Coming

It will be a return west coast visit for Earl (Fatha') Hines and his band this month. The Wm. Morris office is busy setting up California dates for Hines' hard-hitting band.

lob for Dale Cross

Dale Cross took his little society combo to Tucson for a Jan. 31 opening at the Santa Rita Hotel. Cross is a Sammy



'Through With Traveling,' Herman Tells Hollywood

"I don't care if I never lead a band again," said Woody Herman last month after breaking up his mighty herd which featured such names as Red Norvo, Bill Harris, Flip Phillips and others. "I simply couldn't take it any longer. The road is fine for an ambitious young musician who has no family ties but after 15 years it's too much for a beat guy like myself."

Will Have New Radio Show

Herman already has gained seven pounds since junking his ork. High on a hill above Ciro's in Hollywood, in the home he purchased from Humphrey and Lauren Bogart last summer, Woody, his wife Charlotte and their 5-year-old daughter, Ingrid, are enjoying a "normal" home life for the first time.

Woody, however, is not through with music. "I'll probably have a radio program soon, using a bunch of the best studio musicians," he advised. He also plans to record frequently with handpicked musicians.

Still Plans His Own Movie

"We've still got a film to make, too," said Herman, "Ralph Burns already has completed scoring it, the story is ready, part of the casting is completed and there aren't many more details to be worked out." Title of the picture, which will include Igor Stravinsky playing an "in person" role as noted composerconductor, is "Concerto for Johnny."

The little Milwaukee maestro, who slugged away for eight years before winning the public's acclaim, astounded thousands of his followers and even the men in his band when he made the decision, just before Christmas, to abandon the orchestra and take up permanent residence in Hollywood. But already the rest is beginning to show.

Still Managed by Vallon

Michael Vallon of New York will re-



Woody: All he wants is a little rest. He's getting it now in Holly-

Woody won't be paying much in the way of commissions this year, at least in comparison to the sums he paid GAC in 1944-45 and 1946.

Followers of the Herman herd, and of Woody himself, who care to write to within 24 hours of one another in Calihim personally may reach him in care fornia. of General Artists Corporation, 9028 Sunset boulevard, Hollywood, Cal. But don't expect a prompt answer. Mister Woodrow Wilson Herman is a private rep of Freddy Martin's song firm. and vucca trees.

citizen these days, at peace with the world in his house among the clouds What's more, there's a big "Don't



vine street

IMMY STEWART will definitely play the lead in "Young Man With a Horn" when Jerry Wald gets around to producing it for Warner Brothers later this year. It was Wald who made "Humoresque." He's not to be confused with the bandleader of the same monicker.

Every Italian restaurant in Hollywood and Beverly Hills has Julia Lee's "Oh, Marie" on its jukebox, Julia sings two choruses in Italian.

Harry and Betty Grable lames discovered that their baby, originally slated for a June intro, will arrive in April. It's their second.

Vet tunecleffer Cole Porter turned out seven ditties for MGM's forthcoming "The Pirate" picture. Titles include Mack the Black, Nina, Manuela, Be a Clown, Love of My Life, Voodoo and You Can Do No Wrong.

Harold Stern took his band to Las Vegas for a Jan. 31 opening at the Last Frontier Hotel.

Lyle Thayer quit—but suddenly—as big brass with MCA after 12 years in H'wood office. He's booked thousands of bands in that time.

Carrie Jacobs Bond and Charles Wakefield Cadman, composers of many of this nation's best-loved songs, died Film and Bride

Jerry Lester, the plugger with a personality, off to N. Y. to become eastern

orchestra of his own.

Band which Tenor Saxist Lucky duction. Thompson organized last fall fell apart. Babe Russin, who also blows tenor and who was prepared to become a maestro, ealegre, probably in Hollywood. so far hasn't been able to get a band

45-14 on Jan. 1.



DON'T DISTURB. . . Margaret Whiting learns the lyric of "Beware My Heart" on a Capitol waxing session in Hollywood with Frank DeVol conducting. Maggie, featured oriole on the Eddie Cantor program, jumped from nowhere into the rank of most popular chantootsies in 1946. She's still moving up.

-Photo by Charlie Mihn.

For Bernstein

Things are happening fast for 28 - year - old Leonard Bernstein. symphony orchestra conductor and trumpeter recently with Tommy Dorsey, Young Bernstein in mid-January signed completed. assisting him in forming new band, contracts calling for him to create orig-Ziggy Elman, who also blew horn with inal music for "The Fair One," a film Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan. Bern- comes out twice a year for visits. stein also will play a role in the pro-

In June, Bernstein announced, he will marry the Chilean actress Felicia Mont-

Geechie Smith, trumpet-tooting maestro who doubles vocals, still building Best blues singers in California are biz and his own rep at the L.A. Cricket members of the UCLA grid squad. They Club. His "Let the Good Times Roll" still don't believe Illinois walloped 'em and "Let Your Pride Be Your Guide" arrangements are packing 'em in despite current recession in other niteries.

singers' stuff

THEY'VE GOT Bing Crosby working again, this time for a new flicker in which Bob Hope shares top billing. Title is "The Road to Rio" and it marks the first time Norman Mc-Leod has directed a film with the Groaner since "Pennies From Heaven" 10 years ago. Paramount's making the

Judy Stevens is chick slinging wordage with Dick Stabile's ork.

Old Gold ciggies dropped Frank Sinatra off CBS air, allegedly because of poor Hooper rating. It wasn't unex-

Pinky Tomlin goes to Las Vegas for a police ball Feb. 12. Tomlin takes his March, Les Brown will organize his band along to back his singing.

Rudy Vallee radio show will be dropped as soon as present contract

Ginny Simms ticketed for role in "Three Went Uptown," the independent film production planned by Harry Joe Brown. It's a "dramatic musical," whatever that is.

Gene Autry signed new deal with Co- Billingsley's Nitery lumbia Films calling for four a year. He's always worked for Republic, until

Clark Dennis, tenor, doing a lot of radio guest shots. Also waxing for Cap.

"Copacabana" film. He's a red-head May. West coast pals of Charlie Shavers, composer of the "Jeremiah" symphony. now, but won't be when the film is

TD many seasons, likewise is preparing musical to be produced this spring by and 20th-Fox work this month. He go out on one-nighters starting Feb. 4

Meet the Jockey!

TODD PURSE has one of those unenviable jobs in radio, holding down an allnight wax show night after night, monthafter



month. From 2 a.m. until 7 a.m. Purse nursues his patter over Detroit's station WJLB. It's just a coincidence that he, like Jock Chaney in this issue, also is heard at 1400 on the dial with the "1400 Club."

Todd, most of all, likes to interview visiting celebs. He's getting more than his share, too. And Detroit loves it.

Les Brown Set For Palladium

Booked for the Palladium in orchestra soon and prepare to hit the trail again as leader of one of the nation's most popular organizations.

Les has been resting at his home in Beverly Hills with his wife and two children. Just who will be in his outfit when it begins rehearsals isn't definite yet, but it appears that at least half of his former sidemen will return.

Trio Plus Torme for

The Page Cavanaugh trio returned to the stand at Billingsley's Bocage in H'wood on Jan. 21, sharing billing with the songs of 21-year-old Mel Torme. The job marks Torme's first west coast nitery appearance as a singing single. Andy Russell winding up scenes for He goes into the N. Y. Copacabana in

Spivak Hits the Road

Following his Palladium run this Perry Como due in H'wood for radio month, Charlie Spivak and band will in the Pacific Northwest.



STAN KENTON: Avodon Ballroom, opening Feb. 5.

BOBBY SHERWOOD: Casino Gardens, Ocean Park.

JACK TEAGARDEN: Susie-Q Club. AL DONAHUE: Avodon Ballroom. GEECHIE SMITH: Cricket Club. LOUIS JORDAN: Billy Berg's.

FREDDY MARTIN: Hotel Ambassador. VAUGHN MONROE: Palladium, open-

ing Feb. 4.

MATTY MALNECK: Slapsy Maxie's. BENNY COODMAN: NBC, Hollywood. IOE ALEXANDER: Pico Club.

ABBEY BROWNE: Charley Foy's Club. DICK STABILE: Aragon Ballroom.

ART KASSEL: Aragon Ballroom. RAY HERBECK: Meadowbrook. MARV ASHBAUGH: Hangover Club. FRANKIE LAINE: Morocco.

JERRY WALD: Ciro's. DUKE SHAFFER: Casablanca.

PHIL OHMAN: Mocambo. **EMIL BAFFA: Florentine Gardens.** MANNY STRAND: Earl Carroll's. RUSS MORGAN: Biltmore Hotel. RED NICHOLS: Morocco.

lywood.

LES BROWN: Vacationing in Beverly

HARRY JAMES: Reorganizing in Holly-

Lois Butler Signs For Film Career

Although she's only 14, and still attending an L. A. high school, Lois Butler last month was signed for the title role of Eagle-Lion's "Clementine" picture which goes into production soon. It's her first crack at films.

Regularly heard on radio shows emanating from the coast, Lois recently was featured in a Capitol album singing Victor Herbert classics. Johnny Mercer, in fact, was first to give her a break in of mike spieling to his credit. He's

who's where With Only 2 Records. Merle Travis Leaps to Fame in Billboard Poll

Although he has had but two records released, Merle Travis easily was named one of the three most popular folk artists on discs in the recent poll conducted nationally by "Billboard" magazine. Merle's own tune, "Divorce Me C. O. D." also won honors, being tagged as one of the three biggest hits of 1946.

Travis now is heard on 17 different in January, played a week at the L.A. radio programs in the Southern Cali- Million Dollar Theater to big grosses fornia area. Soon he will be featured in with Wesley Tuttle assisting. It folmotion pictures. Merle's most recent lowed Tex's birthday on Jan. 12. The Capitol etching is "So Round, So Firm, newest Ritter record, incidentally, is So Fully Packed." Meaning his gal, of

Tex Atchison, the left-handed fiddler who has worked on all the Travis discs Harmony Homestead Gang heard on to date, is now head of a new band KXLA from 9:15 to 10 a.m. Monday and is working with Spade Cooley En- through Friday. Tuttle's voice also may terprises. One of the flashiest gut- be heard at noon daily on the same stascrapers around, Tex also sings a fine tion on the "Dinner Bell Roundup." song. His new band can't miss.

ton, Dub Taylor and the Coffman Sisters western and folk music fans rate it WOODY HERMAN: Vacationing in Hol- to Elko, Nev., recently for the opening Guthrie's finest performance. Time will of Ranch Inn, a new lodge designed tell.

Meet the lockey!

"SUDS" CHANEY on KUGN in Eugene, Ore., won't admit to his listeners that his name, really, is Austin Chaney.



But "Suds" or no, he's clicking with his patter and chatter on his "After Hours" stanza heard three hours every night in the town which the University of Oregon made famous. Just 26, Chaney is a former army pilot, still single and with six years

heard at 1400 on the dial.

especially for folk who like to get back The cherubic (see photo) Mr. to the range for a brief vacation, Tex. "Ninety-Nine Years" and "One Little Tear Drop Too Late." On Capitol, natch

Wes Tuttle is now a member of the

Nothing but raves for Jack Guthrie's Tex Ritter took Travis, Carolina Cot- new "Oakie Boogie" biscuit. Many



ONE OF THE "Big Three" artists in the folk music field is Merle Travis, according to a popular poll conducted by "Billboard" mag. Travis sings, plays guitar and writes hit tunes like "Divorce Me C. O. D." Merle's rise to national popularity is all the more newsworthy because he has had only two records. Both discs were boffo, however. And that's what counts .- Photo by "Tex" Mihn.

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MARTHA TILTON

DERWIN

CLARK DENNIS

AUL WESTON

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* Obviously, It's Unanimous! *



THERE'S NO disagreement over the merits of the new novelty, "He Like It! She Like It!" The singing Dinning Sisters, shown above with Jimmy Conkling of Capitol's repertoire department and Dean Elliott, their arranger

and conductor, went ahead and waxed the ditty in true Calypso fashion. Backed with "Years and Years Ago," the disc has just been released nationally. The Dinnings have since returned east.

—Photo by Charlie Mihn